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Sherrington sang with good intention throughout; but the florid school of vocalization to which she has been latterly devoting herself at our opera-houses, is scarcely a good preparation for the severe music of Spohr; and the sustained notes in the upper part of the register were consequently often unsatisfactory. The beautiful duet, "Forsake me not," too, was wanting in that fervency of devotion which the character of the music requires; but in the air, "I see a new Heaven," she amply proved the possession of powers which a more thorough training in sacred music might develop to a highly successful issue. Madame Sain-ton-Dolby sang with her usual effect; and Mr. Cummings gave the whole of the tenor music with care and judgment. Mr. Patey sang the bass air, "Thus saith the Lord," remarkably well; and we may safely predict, from the excellent manner in which he sustained his part in the concerted music, that he will prove a most valuable acquisition in Oratorios. Mendelssohn's *Hymn of Praise* formed an admirable contrast to Spohr's work; but this composition is so familiar to the Exeter Hall audiences, that no especial notice of the excellent style in which it was performed on this occasion is necessary. Mr. Sims Reeves was absent, in consequence of a severe accident, and his place was most efficiently supplied by Mr. Cummings. The other vocalists were Madame Lemmens-Sherrington and Mrs. Sidney Smith. Altogether this was one of the most attractive concerts yet given by the Society.

MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS.

THE first concert of the season took place on the 16th ult., when Herr Straus was the violinist, leading Beethoven's Quartett in E flat (No. 10, Op. 74), with an energy and freedom of bowing to which he had not accustomed us on former appearances. He also played in excellent style Beethoven's Sonata in E flat, for pianoforte and violin, with Herr Pauer; and took part in the Pianoforte Quartett of Mendelssohn in B minor. Herr Pauer performed Mozart's Pianoforte Fantasia in C minor, one of the most perfect specimens of the real Fantasia in existence. This he played with his usual facility of execution; but we do not agree with him that the *Allegro* should be taken at such a rapid pace. Mozart, unlike Mendelssohn, was seldom impetuous; and this Fantasia is like an improvisation, in which contrast is aimed at rather by a change of style than by violent alterations of the *tempo*. The vocalists were Miss Louisa Pyne (who was deservedly encored in Mozart's "Vedrai carino"), and Mr. Renwick, who, with a fine bass voice, has yet to learn how to manage it to the best advantage. At the second concert Mr. Charles Halle was the pianist, and Madlle. Florence Lancia and Miss Susan Galton the vocalists.

MUSICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

THE seventh season of this Society was inaugurated on Wednesday, the 25th ult., by a *Conversazione*, at St. James's Hall, which was extremely well attended. A very interesting Concert was given during the evening, and several articles of *vertu* were exhibited in various parts of the Hall. We are glad to find that the Society is in a most flourishing condition; and that during the approaching Concerts several novelties will be introduced, amongst which the most important will be a Symphony composed for, and dedicated to, the Society by Ferdinand Hiller.

DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

GREAT preparations are already being made by the Executive Committee for the Musical part of the opening ceremony, on the 9th May. The orchestra will be arranged after the model of the one at Birmingham. The organ, which will be very large and complete, is building by Messrs. W. Hill and Son, of London. The number of performers will reach 1,000, and the whole will be under

the direction of Mr. Joseph Robinson. It is intended to make the music, on this occasion, as great a success as it was at the opening of the first Irish Industrial Exhibition at Dublin, on the 12th May, 1853. Vocalists are to be invited and selected from the choirs in Liverpool, Manchester, Bradford, Leeds, Birmingham, and other towns and districts within easy travelling distance of Dublin.

THE first *Conversazione* of the "College of Organists" took place on Tuesday, the 17th ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, when a Concert was very excellently performed before a large number of the friends and supporters of the new Society. We should have been pleased to see that the entertainments provided had been selected with more especial reference to the objects of the College; but we presume that the design of the promoters of the *Conversazione* was simply to assemble a number of professors and amateurs together, so that the state of progress of the Society might be brought prominently before them. By the published Report, we perceive that there are nearly 150 members: that two prizes of ten guineas each for original compositions have been offered; and that for these prizes ninety works have been received, and are under examination. If anything can be done by this society to raise the *status* of organists—a consummation which pre-supposes that the *clique* feeling, which has been the ruin of so many musical undertakings, can be kept out of it—we need scarcely say that we wish the College of Organists every success.

WE are glad to find that Signor Roberti's Mass, in E minor, has lately been performed, with full orchestral accompaniment, at St. Marie's Catholic Church, Sheffield, where it met with the most unqualified success. The same composer's Psalms 109 and 112, and his "Magnificat," have also been given at St. John's, Islington.

WE understand that Master Willie Pape, who has already appeared before the Royal family, by command of the Prince of Wales, has received an invitation to play at the Tuilleries before the Empress of the French.

IT is with sincere regret that we have to record the death of Miss Masson, whose zeal and untiring energy in the cause of good music was so little known, because so little forced before the public. Those who only knew her artistic worth could scarcely judge how much she was loved and respected out of that professional circle which confines so many within its narrow limits. As a vocalist, her reading was that of a refined and intellectual artist. A valuable collection of classical vocal music was edited by her many years ago; and in proof of her good feeling towards her sister professors, we may mention that she was the founder of the Royal Society of Female Musicians, and its honorary Treasurer to the day of her death.

THE decease of the Rev. Robert Sarjeant, M.A., Rector of the parish of St. Swithin, Worcester, which took place in December last, will be painfully felt, not only in those private circles where he was so long and justly esteemed, but in the committee of management for the Triennial Musical Festivals, of which it may be said he has been for many years the animating spirit. Of six of these *réunions*, extending from 1848 to 1863 inclusive, we may almost say that the arrangements rested entirely with Mr. Sarjeant; and considering that the preparations for these musical gatherings are usually commenced at least a year beforehand, it may be imagined how much real labour was thrown upon his hands. In every respect, however, both as a musician and a gentleman, he was eminently fitted for the task; and his loss will be deeply felt by those who have so long relied upon his sound judgment and unwearied exertions.

MR. G. T. HILLS gave a new entertainment, entitled "A Musical Ramble," at the Literary Institution, Pimlico, on the 23rd ult. Vocal illustrations by Miss Marion Ray, Miss Agnes and Master G. Hills.

A SELECTION of sacred music was given in the Commercial Road Chapel, on Monday evening, the 16th ult.,